

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 IO-10 SY-04 INR-05

L-02 SS-15 PRS-01 RSC-01 /054 W

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R 230555Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7594

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8515

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: OGLE CASE

REF: SEOUL 8364

1. SEOUL WEEKEND PRESS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO OGLE TESTIMONY BEFORE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE BUT AVOIDED ANY EDITORIAL COMMENT. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "KOREA TIMES" REPORTED DEC. 22 THAT KOREAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (NCCC/K) HAD FORMED LAWYERS GROUP WHICH WOULD BEGIN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TO REVERSE DEPORTATION ORDER.

2. GOVERNMENT'S PUBLIC COMMENTS DN CASE HAVE INCREASINGLY STRESSED INAPPROPRIATENESS OF FOREIGNER'S ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN KOREAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND AFFRONT TO KOREAN SOVEREIGNTY WHICH THIS ENTAILS. THIS WAS BURDEN OF KIM CHONG-PIL'S COMMENTS ON ISSUE DEC. 18 IN PUSAN SPEECH AND IT HAS BEEN THEME OF RECENT EDITORIALS IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED SEOUL "SINMUN" AND "KYONGHYANG SINMUM". THIS IDEA MAY BE STRIKING RESPONSIVE CHORD AMONG MANY KOREANS NOT OTHERWISE WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD GOVERNMENT. IN DEC. 15 EDITORIAL, FOR EXAMPLE, USUALLY CRITICAL "CHOSON ILBO" WRITES THAT KOREAN CHRISTIANS SHOULD HAVE PERSUADED MISSIONARIES NOT TO TAKE TOO ACTIVE A PART IN KOREAN SOCIETY; MISSIONARIES, IT SAID, "SHOULD CONSIDER OUR PRIDE AND FEELINGS AS AN
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INDEPENDENT NATION."

3. OGLE DEPORTATION HAS EVIDENTLY CONVINCED MANY OTHER MISSIONARIES THAT THEY MUST BE CAUTIOUS IN THEIR ACTIVITIES. A NUMBER OF MISSIONARIES HAVE INDICATED TO EMBOFFS THAT, WHILE THEY ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE QUIETLY IN LEGAL EFFORTS ON OGLE'S BEHALF, THEY ARE INCLINED TO BE MORE CAREFUL THAN BEFORE DEPORTATION ABOUT ACTIVITIES WHICH GOVERNMENT MIGHT VIEW AS POLITICAL. IN THIS REGARD, REVS. WILSON, BURKHOLDER, AND POITRAS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY DO NOT NOW INTEND TO PRESS FOR MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PARK WHICH THEY HAD BEEN SEEKING BEFORE. (REFTEL).
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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